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DOCKET NO.: THOM-0039/RA/P303235US  
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Murray Edward Bruce Leighton

Application No.: 10/522,825

Filing Date: September 20, 2005

For: RECLOSABLE BAGS HAVING A TEAR-OPEN STRING

Confirmation No.: 6842

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

DATE OF DEPOSIT: *January 27, 2006*

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, ON THE DATE INDICATED ABOVE AND IS ADDRESSED TO THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

*Elizabeth A. McLoud*

TYPED NAME Elizabeth A. McLoud

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56 and in accordance with 37 CFR §§ 1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b).

- ☒ In accordance with § 1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of

the above identified application as set forth in § 1.491, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of request for continued examination under § 1.114, no additional fee is required.

- ☐ In accordance with § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in § 1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final Action under § 1.116 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, or before an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, therefore:

- ☐ Certification in Accordance with § 1.97(e) is attached; or  
☐ The fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is attached.

- ☐ In accordance with § 1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311 but before, or simultaneously with, the payment of the Issue Fee, therefore included are: Certification in Accordance with § 1.97(e); and the submission fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p).

- ☒ Copies of reference numbers 4 - 6 listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.

- ☒ Copies of reference numbers 1 - 3 on the attached Form PTO 1449 are not required to be submitted pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(2)(i).

- ☐ Copies of references - are not being submitted because they were previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in patent application number , filed for which a claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 has been made in the instant application.

**DOCKET NO.: THOM-0039/RA/P303235US**  
**PATENT**

- 3 -


☒ The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as follows:

The relevance of **1,080,608 (France)** to the present application is that it was cited in a PCT Search Report in a counterpart International application, a copy of which Search Report is submitted herewith.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3050. This form is submitted in duplicate.

Date:

1/27/06

  
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<b>Form PTO-1449 Modified</b>  List of Patent and Publications Cited by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary)  U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Docket No. THOM-0039/ RA/P303235US	Application No. 10/522,825
	Applicant Murray Edward Bruce Leighton	
	Filing Date September 20, 2005	Group Not Yet Assigned
	Confirmation No. 6842	

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass
	1	5,186,543	02/16/93	Cochran	383	203
	2	5,375,930	12/27/94	Tani	383	206
	3	5,609,420	03/11/97	Palmisano	383	203

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Date	Country	Translation	
					YES	NO
	4	0 951 989	10/27/99	EP	X abstract	
	5	1,081,608	12/21/54	FR		X
	6	2,832,698	5/30/03	FR	X abstract	

<b>EXAMINER</b>	<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>
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